

Message from the Director

As the water recedes from this spring's record flooding, we are starting to get a first-hand account of the damage created by this historic flood. Various units of local and state government have turned in \$85 million in damages or costs incurred via their local damage assessments. While many reporters have forecasted that this is a clear indication that Illinois will be granted a federal disaster declaration, I would caution those who operate under those assumptions.

It is clear that the road to recovery will be difficult and that the impact of this disaster will be felt for years to come. The Governor pledged the help of his entire administration to work hand-in-hand with our state and federal partners to ensure Illinois rebuilds stronger and more resilient.

This flood has renewed calls within state and local government to look for ways to reduce the impact of flooding on residents and communities. Flood mitigation efforts are made possible by Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding the state receives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The program enables state and local governments to work together on a cost-effective, long-term mitigation measure to reduce loss of life and property due to natural disasters.

More than 4,300 properties in 52 counties have been purchased since the mid-1990s, when federal funds became available for these proactive measures. After the Great Flood of 1993, Illinois emerged as a leader in acquiring flood damaged structures, essentially writing the procedures that the rest of the states later adopted.

These proactive measures break the cycle of construction-destruction-reconstruction by providing homeowners an opportunity to voluntarily move out of harm's way. Deed restrictions are then placed on the properties to prevent future structures on those lots.

The acquisition of flood-prone structures works hand-in-hand with rigorous enforcement of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) regulations that prevent structures from being constructed at elevations that can potentially flood. Thanks to the longstanding diligence of staff in the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Office of Water Resources and local zoning officers, Illinois is a national leader for preventing new structures from being constructed contrary to the NFIP regulations.



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Gov. Pritzker Requests Federal Review of Damage Assessments in Flood Ravaged River Communities

Governor JB Pritzker formally requested the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to assist with damage assessments in 30 Illinois counties devastated by extensive river flooding dating back to as early as February 2019. The assessments, which will begin on July 29, will provide the documentation necessary to support a request for federal assistance. This joint damage assessment will include personnel from FEMA, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and the U.S. Small Business Administration. Officials will be reviewing damage to homes, businesses, roads, levees and other critical infrastructure items.

“Local damage assessments have identified countless homes, businesses and roads that were heavily damaged or destroyed during this historic flood,” said Governor JB Pritzker. “It is clear that the road to recovery will be difficult and that the impact of this disaster will be felt for years to come. This administration will work hand-in-hand with our state and federal partners to ensure Illinois rebuilds stronger and more resilient.”

Joint damage assessments will take place in the following counties: LaSalle, Carroll, Whiteside, Rock Island, Mercer, Henderson, Knox, Henry, Pike, Morgan, Woodford, Calhoun, Madison, Monroe, Bureau, Hancock, Adams, Peoria, Fulton, Schuyler, Cass, Scott, Tazewell, Greene, Jersey, St. Clair, Randolph, Jackson, Union and Alexander Counties. Due to the extensive geographic region and on-going flood fight impeding key transportation thoroughfares, this process is expected to last several weeks.

In all, 36 counties remain covered by a Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation as flooding continues to threaten river communities throughout the state. This is critical as flood fighting, dewatering activities and emergency protective measures are still ongoing in parts of the State. The areas that remain inaccessible continue to present life-safety issues for citizens, requiring sustained and specialized response capabilities.

Sesame Street Fire Safety Program for Preschool Children

More than half of child fire deaths are among children age 4 or younger – making them an important audience for fire prevention and education.

The U.S. Fire Administration has collaborated with Sesame Workshop to update the Sesame Street® Fire Safety Program for preschool kids. The program shows educators how to empower children ages 3–5 with essential fire safety information and skills that can make a big difference in case of an emergency.

The program includes easy-to-use lessons, games and activities to help reinforce important fire safety messages and show children what to do if there is a fire, and ways to prevent fires from starting. The lovable, furry Sesame Street friends will help engage the children each step of the way!

The Sesame Street Fire Safety Program curriculum for preschoolers is available in both English and Spanish. The curriculum includes an educator’s guide for

teachers, a CD of songs and stories, a family guide, a coloring and activity booklet, and a poster. Only U.S. fire departments, schools and day care providers can order printed copies of the full curriculum. To learn more, contact the U.S. Fire Administration via email at usfa-publications@fema.dhs.gov.



Editorial Note: Content provided by U.S. Fire Administration

IEMA Announces Homeland Security Campaign Focusing on Protecting Public Safety

Whether you are on your way to work, walking in the park or out in your community, we all play a role in keeping our communities safe. The Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) recently launched a new campaign to raise awareness of the importance of reporting suspicious activity to state and local law enforcement.

“This new video is an important piece of the Ready Illinois preparedness campaign,” said IEMA Acting Director Alicia Tate-Nadeau. “We hope this public service announcement serves as a reminder to the public to remain vigilant, speak out if they notice something out of the ordinary and report suspicious activities in order to protect our cities and towns from unscrupulous acts of terror. Some activities could be innocent, but it is up to law enforcement to determine whether the behavior requires an investigation.”

See Something, Say Something is a national campaign that raises public awareness of the indicators of terrorism and terrorism-related crime, as well as the importance of reporting suspicious activity to state and local law enforcement. In the video, the viewer follows residents in Small Town USA as they walk to a nearby movie theater. Each couple passes examples of suspicious behavior that should be (and are) reported

to local law enforcement. The video demonstrates that suspicious activities can happen anywhere and anytime.

The new spots are airing as part of the Ready Illinois broadcast preparedness campaign, which is aired in cooperation with the Illinois Broadcasters Association (IBA) Public Education Partnership (PEP) program. The spots will air on more than more than 30 Illinois TV stations. In the weeks to come, IEMA will add additional radio spots that will air on 200 radio stations throughout the state.

“Illinois broadcasters understand the important role they play in educating their many viewers and listeners by airing Illinois Emergency Management Agency campaigns,” said IBA President and CEO Dennis Lyle. “This latest “See Something, Say Something” campaign is no exception, and is yet another example of the great working relationship and partnership our association has enjoyed with IEMA these past many years.”

All of the preparedness radio and TV ads can be found on the Ready Illinois website (www.Ready.Illinois.gov).



Register Today: IEMA Training Summit 2019

Registration is now open for the 2019 IEMA Training Summit.

This year's Summit will take place Sept. 3-5 at the Bank of Springfield Center in downtown Springfield.

New This Year:

- Catered lunch on-site, included with your Summit registration
- Additional General Session
- All-Inclusive Director's Reception
- Social Event – New Location
- Post Session Training Opportunities

Register Today! <https://iemasummit2019.pathable.com/>



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Al H. Gillespie
Past President, International Association of Fire Chiefs

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General Session Speakers:



Sheriff Bob Gualtieri,
Pinellas County, FL



James K. Joseph,
FEMA Region V Administrator



Brock Long,
Hagerty Consulting, former FEMA
Administrator

August is School and Campus Preparedness Month in Illinois

Students from kindergarten through college soon will head back to school. As families prepare for the new academic year, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and local emergency management agencies are encouraging parents to include emergency preparedness in their back-to-school plans.

Emergencies can occur any time of the day or night, including when children are in school. The start of a new school year is the perfect time to make sure you know your school's plans for keeping students safe during an emergency and then talking to your child about those plans.

Here are some tips for parents to consider:

- Find out where children will be taken in the event of an evacuation during school hours.
- Ensure your current emergency contact information is on file at your child's school.
- Pre-authorize a friend or relative to pick up your children in an emergency and make sure the school knows who that designated person is.
- Teach children with cell phones about "Text First, Talk Later." Short, simple text messages, such as "R U OK?" and "I'm OK," are more likely to get

through than a phone call if phone service is unavailable immediately following an emergency. As phone congestion eases, you can follow up with a phone call to relay more information.

Students headed off to college also need to be prepared for emergencies. Many college campuses offer email and text messages to alert students of potential dangers, such as severe weather and other threats. Encourage your college student to sign-up for such alerts. Some colleges also provide alert messages for parents so they, too, can be aware of potential dangers on campus. In addition, make sure your student knows the emergency plans for their dorm or apartment building.

In addition, a great resource for both parents and college students is the FEMA Weather app. This free app provides fast and reliable alerts from the National Weather Service (NWS). Best of all, the app can be tailored to offer alerts for up to five different locations. This convenience can provide peace of mind for parents who have kids that have moved away to college.

Additional preparedness information is available on the Ready Illinois website at www.Ready.Illinois.gov. You can also follow Ready Illinois on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

2019 Prairie State CERT Challenge Team

Both the team and volunteer registration for the 2019 Prairie State Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Challenge is now open. The Challenge will be held on Saturday, September 21 at Oak Forest Health Center in Oak Forest.

Team Information: Those jurisdictions with active CERT programs that wish to participate as a team in the challenge must register by August 21. <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=t6xp7jwab&oeidk=a07egeupij7cf16efc>

Volunteer Information: Volunteer registration will stay open until all roles are filled.

Volunteer opportunities do not require previous CERT experience, but you do need to be 18 years of age and older. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094bafa82ea3fe3-2019>

For more information, contact Michelle Hanneken at Michelle.J.Hanneken@illinois.gov



August 2019 Training Schedule

HSEEP

Location: Fairview Heights Fire Department
10045 Bunkum Rd
Fairview Heights, IL 62208

Date: 8/6/2019-8/7/2019

Course Description: This two-day course provides a basic overview of the HSEEP exercise process. The goal of the course is to provide professionals with a set of guiding principles for exercise programs, as well as a common approach to exercise program management, design and development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning. Through the use of HSEEP guidance and processes, exercise program managers can develop, execute, and evaluate exercises that address the priorities established by their organization's leaders.

Registration: Registration on IEMA registration site.

Debris Management Course

Location: Sangamon County OEM
2801 N 5th
Springfield, IL 62702

Date: 8/6/2019

Course Description: This one day course is designed to provide participants with the ability to manage enormous amounts of debris that a disaster can produce. The importance of having plans containing standard operating procedures for all aspects of debris management is emphasized. Various situations that debris cause are discussed and the consequent actions necessary to return a community to pre-disaster conditions are addressed. Participants will have the opportunity to apply what they have learned during group activities.

Items the students are required to bring to class:

- Copy of street map for municipal personnel or county map for county personnel
- Debris Management Annex/SOP or Plan
- Local disaster declaration boiler plate
- EOP/Local ordinance that would identify any emergency powers available following a local disaster declaration being declared

Registration:

Registration on IEMA registration site



Volunteer and Donations Management

Location: ARC Greater Chicago/Northern Illinois
2200 W Harrison St
Chicago, IL 60612

Date: 8/6/2019

Course Description: This course is an updated version of the course formerly known as Developing Volunteer Resources. This one-day course is designed to provide the knowledge and skill set necessary to develop and execute an effective volunteer and donations management program over time.

Registration:

Registration on IEMA registration site

Volunteer Reception Center Management

Location: ARC Greater Chicago/Northern Illinois
2200 W Harrison St
Chicago, IL 60612

Date: 8/7/2019-8/8/2019

Course Description: This two day advanced course will provide local jurisdictions with the skills necessary to effectively manage volunteers that spontaneously arrive following a local disaster and how to effectively set up a Volunteer Reception Center.

Registration:

Registration on IEMA registration site

August 2019 Training Schedule *(continued)*



HSEEP

Location: Vermilion County EMA
2507 Georgetown
Danville, IL 61832

Date: 8/14/2019-8/15/2019

Course Description: This two day course provides a basic overview of the HSEEP exercise process. The goal of the course is to provide professionals with a set of guiding principles for exercise programs, as well as a common approach to exercise program management, design and development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning. Through the use of HSEEP guidance and processes, exercise program managers can develop, execute, and evaluate exercises that address the priorities established by their organization's leaders.

Registration:

Registration on IEMA registration site

Emergency Planning Process

Location: Brown County Training Facility
835 US Route 24 West
Mt. Sterling, IL 62353

Date: 8/19/2019-8/20/2019

Course Description: This newly-revised two day course (October 2014) is designed to promote the development of an integrated Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). Established planning concepts are reviewed and discussed. The components of an effective Emergency Operations Plan are presented and discussed. This course will review the planning process, hazard specific planning and hazard analysis. This course addresses all Emergency Operations Plan requirements outlined in the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Administrative Rules. Participants will have the opportunity to apply what they have learned during group activities.

Registration: Registration on IEMA registration site.

Emergency Planning Process

Location: State Regional office Marion
2309 W Main St
Marion, IL 62959

Date: 8/20/2019-8/21/2019

Course Description: This newly-revised two day course (October 2014) is designed to promote the development of an integrated Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). Established planning concepts are reviewed and discussed. The components of an effective Emergency Operations Plan are presented and discussed. This course will review the planning process, hazard specific planning and hazard analysis. This course addresses all Emergency Operations Plan requirements outlined in the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Administrative Rules. Participants will have the opportunity to apply what they have learned during group activities.

Registration: Registration on IEMA registration site.

Volunteer and Donations Management

Location: North Aurora PD
200 S. Lincoln Way
North Aurora, IL 60542

Date: 8/24/2019

Course Description: This course is an updated version of the course formerly known as Developing Volunteer Resources. This one-day course is designed to provide the knowledge and skill set necessary to develop and execute an effective volunteer and donations management program over time.

Registration: Registration on IEMA registration site.

BEOC Featured at 17th Annual Illinois Department of Public Health Summit

June marked the 17th annual Public Health and Health Care Summit, which took place at the Illinois State University Bone Student Center and Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in Normal, Illinois. Approximately 450 professions in public health, emergency management, voluntary organizations and other public safety-related fields, as well as the private sector attended the two-day summit for the opportunity for training, education and networking.

With the theme of Preparing for Emerging Threats Through Expanded Partnerships the Illinois Department of Public Health's (IDPH) Summit strived to enhance planning initiatives and solve community preparedness issues throughout the State of Illinois. Sessions centered around five focus areas: infections disease and surveillance, health care coalitions, capacity building, current events and hot topics, and lessons learned.

The Business Emergency Operations Center (BEOC) and the Statewide Terrorism & Intelligence Center



(STIC) led a discussion on information sharing among the public-private partnerships in the healthcare sector. The BEOC and STIC highlighted the development of public safety outreach programs, the importance of developing trusted relationships, engaging members as well as lessons learned and best practices for developing and maintaining these programs.

COMINGS & GOINGS at IEMA

SEPARATION

- **Brian Hummel**, SPSA, Director's Office (effective 7/15/19)

NEW EMPLOYEE

- **Jason Sanford**, SPSA, Director's Office (effective 7/16/19)

END TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT

- **Jerry Miller**, Communications Equipment Tech, OPS (effective 7/15/19)
- **Carlita Crockett**, Administrative Assistant I, OPS (effective 7/15/19)

Learning is Fun: IEMA to Educate Fairgoers about Earthquake Risks

The Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) is teaming up with the Illinois State Fair to educate fairgoers about the risks of earthquakes in Illinois. Throughout the duration of the Illinois State Fair (Aug 8-18), IEMA staff will be educating the public about the risks associated with earthquakes, and how to stay safe during this potential disaster.



Street, to take part in an interactive video kiosk, featuring videos, audio clips, animations and a new virtual reality feature. The content provides information about earthquake hazards in Illinois, safety tips and more than 100 how-to videos that demonstrate methods for securing bookshelves, wall-hangings, water heaters and other household items, as well as personal preparedness tips that are essential during any disaster.

"One of IEMA's responsibilities is to encourage Illinois residents to be better prepared for all types of emergencies," said Acting Director Alicia Tate-Nadeau. "In Illinois, this includes not only tornadoes, flooding and other severe weather events, but also earthquakes. It is critically important that Illinoisans know how to prepare and respond to emergencies whether they are at home, school, work or on vacation."

Fairgoers are encouraged to visit the Governor's Tent, near the intersection of Brian Rainey Avenue and Main

While visiting the Governor's Tent at the Illinois State Fair, fairgoers will also be encouraged to sign up to participate in the annual Shakeout Earthquake Drill on October 17 at 10:17am. Learning how to "Drop, Cover and Hold On" during a Shakeout drill can help people prevent injury during an earthquake. The phrase reminds people to drop down to the floor, take cover under a sturdy desk, table or other furniture, and hold on to that object and be prepared to move with it until the shaking ends. You can sign-up your family or business today by visiting, www.shakeout.org.

Don't Miss Important IEMA Information

Did you know - IEMA's website enables you to receive the latest news from IEMA as soon as it is posted. You can subscribe to the RSS feed for IEMA press releases at <http://www.illinois.gov/iema/Info/Pages/PressReleases.aspx>.

You will need a third-party RSS reader/aggregator software. There are many options to choose from ranging from web-based to mobile apps. If you are

using Microsoft Exchange, you can simply right click on the "RSS Feeds" folder and select "Add a new RSS Feed," then insert the address of the RSS feed.

Some browsers will have a "subscribe" link at the top of the page automatically. Clicking this link will add the subscription to a "Feeds" section of your browser's favorites or bookmarks.

Previous issues of Inside IEMA are available at:

<http://www.illinois.gov/iema/Info/Pages/Newsletters.aspx>.



State of Illinois
Illinois Emergency Management Agency

For more information on this newsletter, contact:

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